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Identical letters dated 10 March 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you the following:

In recent days, Turkish regime forces have continued their treacherous attacks against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, in shameless violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the principle of good-neighbourliness. Those attacks are also in flagrant violation of Security Council counter-terrorism resolutions.

Blind Turkish policies have resulted in more and more attacks by the Turkish army on the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic and the murder of more and more Syrian civilians. On Thursday, 9 March 2017, Turkish regime forces stationed illegally on Syrian territory directed artillery fire and rockets at positions belonging to the Syrian Arab Army and its allies in parts of the city of Manbij in the Aleppo governorate countryside. The Turkish bombardment of Border Guard posts at Buwayhij, Bughaz, Amyanah and Hill 543 resulted in a number of dead and injured.

The Syrian Arab Republic holds the Turkish regime responsible for supporting the terrorism that has killed tens of thousands of its innocent citizens and destroyed Syrian infrastructure on direct orders from that regime's President, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, whose security apparatus has supplied the terrorist organizations with all the weapons, financing, safe havens and hospitals that they need. The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates its demand for the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the members of the Security Council to put a stop to attacks by the Turkish army, the Erdoğan regime and the Justice and Development Party. The only explanation for those attacks is that they are an attempt to halt the progress achieved by Syrian Arab Army and its allies in dislodging the terrorist organizations and associated groups, and restoring security and stability to the Aleppo countryside and the rest of Syrian territory. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic also calls on the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Security Council and the international community to compel Turkey to immediately withdraw its forces, which have invaded the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic in violation of international law. It is incumbent upon the Security Council to put a stop to the Turkish attacks for the sake of maintaining security and stability in the region and the world.

Any attempt to cover up these shameful attacks against Syrian sovereignty and territorial integrity, both of which are emphasized in all the Security Council

resolutions on Syria, will only keep the situation explosive and keep fires burning in the region. That would ultimately serve only the terrorist groups and their backers, which include Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and others.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mounzer **Mounzer**
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'affaires a.i.